

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LUSAKA 02688 061607Z
ACTION AF-10

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FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

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INFO AMEMBASSY DARES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY GABORNONE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 2688

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PDEV RH US UK

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT KAUNDA AND HEAD OF STATE OBASANJO ON
THE ANGLO-AMERICAN WHITE PAPER

REF: (A) LUSAKA 2679 , (B) LUSAKA 2682

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. SPEAKING AT A LUNCHEON IN KITWE IN HONOR OF NIGERIAN
HEAD OF STATE OBASANJO, PRES KAUNDA STATED THAT THE ANGLO-
AMERICAN WHITE PAPER ON RHODESIA WAS A "NON-STARTER"
BECAUSE ITS PROPOSALS ARE SILENT ON THE ACTIONS WHICH
BRITIAN,US AND OTHER WESTERN NATIONS WOULD TAKE IF
RHODESIAN LEADER IAN SMITH REJECTS THE WHITE PAPER.
KAUNDA SAID SMITH WOULD DEFY THE
WHITE PAPER AND
WOULD DISCUSS IT ONLY AS A MATTER OF BUYING TIME.
HE CRITICIZED THE PACKAGE SAYING IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN
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ACCOMPANIED BY A FIXED TIMETABLE TO STOP THE FLOW
OF OIL TO SMITH'S REBEL ARMY.

2. KAUNDA STATED THAT SMITH CANNOT BE EXPECTED TO
SURRENDER AND WILL SIMPLY TURN THE PROPOSALS INTO A
SMOKESCREEN FOR HIS INTERNAL SETTLEMENT WHICH WOULD
LEAD TO CIVIL WAR. THE WEST SHOULD HAVE MADE IT CLEAR

THAT UNLESS SMITH ACCEPTED THE PROPOSALS THEY WOULD EFFECTIVELY CUT OFF OIL TO RHODESIA. WITHOUT THIS PRESSURE SMITH WOULD GIVE HIS ARMY TO A SET OF "SPONSORED" BLACK LEADERS SO THAT IN THE ENSURING CIVIL WAR HE COULD SLIP AWAY SAFELY, LEAVING SALISBURY, BULAWAYO AND THE COUNTRYSIDE BURNING FROM A SENSELESS FRATRICIDAL WAR.

3. PRES KAUNDA SAID HE ASSUMED THAT THE WEST IS SAYING THEY CAN STOP SMITH PROVIDED AFRICAN LEADERS SUPPORT THEIR PROPOSALS. ONLY ONE OF THE PROPOSALS, THE ZIMBABWE DEVELOPMENT FUND, HAD NOT BEEN PREVIOUSLY ADVANCED BY AFRICAN LEADERS BUT "WE HAVE NEVER REJECTED THIS IDEA SINCE THE WEST SENT THEIR MESSAGE WITH AMERICAN SECRETARY OF STATE, DR HENRY KISSINGER TO BRING IT TO US". THE WEST IS NOW ASKING AFRICA TO SUPPORT ITS OWN IDEAS WHICH HAVE FOR A LONG TIME BEEN CONTAINED IN THE LUSAKA MANIFESTO.

4. OBASANJO REPLIED TO PRES KAUNDA'S REMARKS SAYING THAT THE ANGLO-AMERICAN INITIATIVE IS YET ANOTHER ATTEMPT BY THE BRITISH AND THE AMERICANS TO AVERT A BLOODY WAR AND FIND A PEACEFUL MEANS OF OBTAINING MAJORITY RULE. HE SAID HE HAD NO REASON TO QUESTION THE CORNERSTONE OF THE PEACE MOVE BUT THAT HE WAS AWARE OF THE FACT THAT GREAT DIFFICULTIES LIE IN THE WAY OF SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION. THE LIBERATION FORCES SHOULD NOT BE LURED INTO FALSE
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SECURITY OR RELENT THEIR EFFORTS UNTIL SMITH AND HIS CONSPIRATORS ARE REMOVED. SMITH SHOULD KNOW THAT RECKLESS ADVENTURES COULD ONLY LEAD TO MORE BITTERNESS AMONG RACIAL GROUPS IN ZIMBABWE TO THE DISADVANTAGE OF THE SPECIAL GROUP HE CLAIMS TO BE PROTECTING. "WE IN AFRICA WILL NOT FOLD OUR HANDS AND WATCH RECKLESS VIOLATIONS OF TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY BY ATTACKS ON INDEPENDENT AFRICAN COUNTRIES FROM A SINKING REGIME IN ZIMBABWE". THE PROPOSALS HE SAID INCORPORATE THE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF MAJORITY RULE BUT CARE SHOULD BE TAKEN TO ENSURE THAT THIS MOVE IS NOT UNDERMINED BY LACK OF WILL OR FAILURE TO RECOGNIZE THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS AS A BASIC NUCLEUS IN THE NEW NATIONAL MILITARY FORCES IN ZIMBABWE. END UNCLASSIFIED

BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL

5. COMMENT: KAUNDA HAS NOT REGISTERED HIS VOICE BEHIND THE WARNINGS GIVEN US SATURDAY BY MWALE(REFTEL A) AND SUNDAY BY OBASANJO (REFTEL B) THE ZAMBIANS WANT TO SEE HOW WE ARE PROPOSING TO GET RID OF SMITH BEFORE THEY WILL COOPERATE WITH US, A POSITION THEY HAVE HELD STEADILY

SINCE GENEVA. ANY REPLY TO THEM WILLHAVE TO GO BEYOND
BROAD GENERALITIES OR THEY WILL TREAT IT WITH SCORN AND
REJECT IT. END CONFIDENTIAL.
LOW

NOTE BY OC/T: DISTRIBUTION COORDINATED WITH MR. HART, S/S-O.

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